

REMARKS

Claims 1, 8 and 9 are amended herein. Claim 7 has been canceled. Claims 1-6 and 8-14 are pending and under consideration.

The rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 101 are overcome by the present amendments.

The rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103 are now discussed. Independent claim 1 (used as an example herein) recites performing a main-scanning operation of the scanner, comprising resuming a scanning operation of the scanner at a second predetermined resolution and speed in response to the stopping the pre-scanning operation.

Neither of the cited references teaches the claimed "resuming a scanning operation" in the predetermined direction. Instead, Lee teaches preview scanning the entire document. Lee, col. 5, ln. 58-62. Thus, there is a continuous moving across the entire document. Sheng teaches an edge detector 16 and a separate scanning module 14, thus, there are separate scans and no "resuming moving" as claimed.

Furthermore, it is respectfully submitted that the cited references do not teach the claimed determining whether white data exists for each line of a document to be scanned and counting a number of white lines of the white data.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections is requested.

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

Serial No. 10/748,657

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

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